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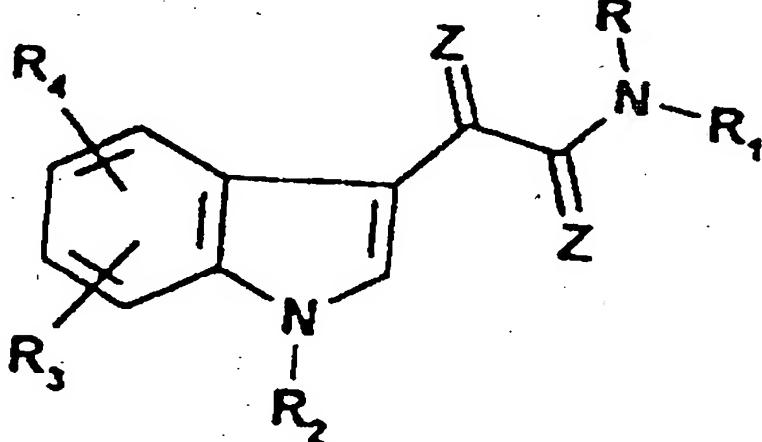
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(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The invention relates to novel N-substituted indole-3-glyoxylamides, to processes for their preparation and to their pharmaceutical use. The compounds have antiasthmatic, antiallergic and immuno-suppressant/immunomodulating actions.

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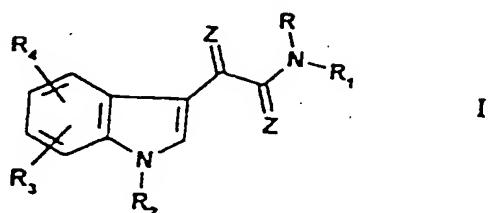
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Abstract

The invention relates to an N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of formula I:



or an acid addition salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising the above compound, use of the above compound and a process for preparing the above compound. Compounds of the above formula have antiasthmatic, antiallergic and immunomodulating activity.

N-Substituted Indol-3-Glyoxylamides Having Anti-Asthmatic,
Antiallergic And Immunosuppressant/Immuno-Modulating Action

5

Indole-3-glyoxylamides have various uses as pharmaco-dynamically active compounds and as synthesis components in the pharmaceutical chemistry.

10 The Patent Application NL 6502481 describes compounds which have an antiinflammatory and antipyretic profile of action and analgesic activity.

15 The British Patent GB 1 028 812 mentions derivatives of indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid and its amides as compounds having analgesic, anticonvulsant and β -adrenergic activity.

20 G. Domschke et al. (Ber. 94, 2353 (1961)) describe 3-indolylglyoxylamides which are not characterized pharmacologically.

25 E. Walton et al. in J. Med. Chem. 11,1252 (1968) report on indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid derivatives which have an inhibitory activity on glycerophosphate dehydrogenase and lactate dehydrogenase.

30 European Patent Specification EP 0 675 110 A1 describes 1H-indole-3-glyoxylamides which are profiled as sPLA₂ inhibitors and are used in the treatment of septic shock, in pancreatitis, and in the treatment of allergic rhinitis and rheumatoid arthritis.

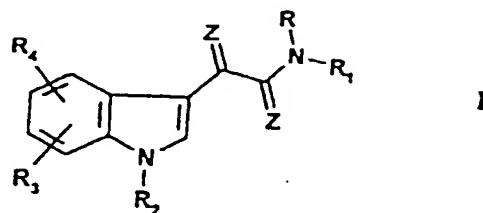
35 The aim of the present invention is to make available novel compounds from the indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid series, which have antiasthmatic and immunomodulating action.

40 The chemical processes for the preparation of these compounds and pharmaceutical processes for the con-

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version of the novel compounds into medicaments and their preparation forms are furthermore described.

The present invention provides an N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of formula I:



or an acid addition salt thereof,
wherein the radicals R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and Z have the following meanings:

R represents:

- (1) hydrogen; or
- (2) (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, wherein the alkyl group is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by a phenyl ring, which ring is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols, trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups, benzyloxy groups and benzyl groups which are optionally mono- or polysubstituted on the phenyl moiety by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl groups, halogen atoms or trifluoromethyl groups;

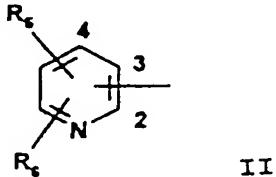
R₁ represents:

- (1) a phenyl ring which is mono- or polysubstituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, benzyloxy, nitro, amino, (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-

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carbonylamino and by a carboxyl group or a carboxyl group esterified by a (C₁-C₆)-alkanol;

(2) a pyridine structure of formula II:



wherein the pyridine structure is alternatively bonded to the ring carbon atoms 2, 3 and 4 and is optionally substituted by R₅ and R₆, which may be identical or different and represent (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, nitro, amino, hydroxyl, halogen, trifluoromethyl, an ethoxycarbonylamino radical and a carboxyalkyloxy group in which the alkyl group has 1-4 carbon atoms;

(3) a pyridylmethyl radical in which CH₂ is in the 2-, 3- or 4-position;

(4) a 2-, 3- or 4-quinolyl structure substituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, halogen, a nitro group, an amino group or a (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino radical;

(5) a 2-, 3- or 4-quinolyl methyl group, wherein the ring carbons of the pyridylmethyl and quinolylmethyl radicals are optionally substituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, nitro, amino and

(C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonylamino;

(6) if R represents hydrogen or a benzyl group, R₁ furthermore represents the acid radical of a natural amino acid, wherein the amino group of the amino acid is present in protected or unprotected form, and wherein if R₁

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represents an asparagyl or a glutamyl radical having a second nonbonded carboxyl group, the nonbonded carboxyl group is present as a free carboxyl group or in the form of an ester with C₁-C₆-alkanols; or
(7) an allylaminocarbonyl-2-methylprop-1-yl group;

R₂ represents:

- (1) hydrogen;
- (2) a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl group, the alkyl group being optionally mono- or polysubstituted by:

halogen;

a phenyl ring, which ring is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl,

(C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols,

trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups; or benzyloxy groups; or a 2-quinolyl group or a 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl structure which are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl groups or (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy groups; or

- (3) an aroyl radical, wherein the aroyl moiety on which the radical is based is a phenyl ring which is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols, trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups, or benzyloxy groups;

R₃ and R₄, which are identical or different, represent hydrogen, hydroxyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl,

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(C₁-C₆)-alkanoyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, halogen, benzoxy, a nitro group, an amino group, a (C₁-C₄)-mono- or dialkyl substituted amino group, a (C₁-C₃)-alkoxycarbonylamino function or a (C₁-C₃)-alkoxycarbonylamino-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl function; and

Z represents O or S;

wherein alkyl, alkanol, alkoxy and alkylamino groups may be straight chained or branched;

with the proviso that when R, R₃ and R₄ are hydrogen, Z is O and R₁ is 3-pyridyl, R₂ is not hydrogen.

The designation alkyl, alkanol, alkoxy or alkylamino group for the radicals R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆ and R₇ is normally to be understood as meaning "straight-chain" and "branched" alkyl groups, where "straight-chain alkyl groups" can be, for example, radicals such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl and n-hexyl and "branched alkyl groups" designate, for example, radicals such as isopropyl or tert-butyl. "Cycloalkyl" is to be understood as meaning radicals such as, for example, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or cycloheptyl.

The designation "halogen" represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine. The designation "alkoxy group" represents radicals such as, for example, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, isobutoxy or pentoxy.

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The compounds according to the invention can also be present as acid addition salts, for example as salts of mineral acids, such as, for example, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, salts of organic acids, 5 such as, for example, acetic acid, lactic acid, malonic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, gluconic acid, glucuronic acid, citric acid, embonic acid, methanesulfonic acid, trifluoroacetic acid and succinic acid.

10

Both the compounds of the formula I and their salts are biologically active. The compounds of the formula I can be administered in free form or as salts with a physiologically tolerable acid.

15 Administration can be carried out orally, parenterally, intravenously, transdermally or by inhalation.

20 The invention furthermore relates to pharmaceutical preparations containing at least one compound of the formula I or its salt with physiologically tolerable inorganic or organic acids and, if appropriate, pharmaceutically utilizable excipients and/or diluents or auxiliaries.

25 Suitable administration forms are, for example, tablets, coated tablets, capsules, solutions or ampoules, suppositories, patches, powder preparations which can be inhaled, suspensions, creams and ointments.

30

35 The compounds according to the invention have a good antiasthmatic, antiallergic and immuno-suppressant/immunomodulating action, for example in transplantations and diseases such as psoriasis, rheumatoid disorders and chronic polyarthritis, in the following pharmacological models:

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Inhibition of the "late phase" eosinophilia in the BAL
24 hours after allergen challenge in guinea pigs

Male guinea pigs (200 - 250 g, Dunkin Hartley Shoe)
5 were actively sensitized subcutaneously with ovalbumin
(10 µg of ovalbumin + 1 mg of Al(OH),) and boosted 2
weeks later. One week after boosting with ovalbumin,
the animals were exposed to an inhalation challenge
with ovalbumin (0.5 % strength solution) for 20 - 30
10 seconds. 24 hours later, the animals were killed by
means of an overdose of urethane, exsanguinated and a
bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) was carried out using 2 x
5 ml of 0.9 % strength physiological saline solution.

15 The lavage fluid was collected and centrifuged at 400 g
for 10 minutes, and the pellets were suspended in 1 ml
of 0.9 % strength physiological saline solution. The
eosinophils were counted microscopically in a Neubauer
chamber after staining by means of Becton Dickinson
20 test kit No. 5877. This test kit contains Phloxin B as
a selective stain for eosinophils. The eosinophils in
the BAL was [sic] counted here for each animal and
expressed as eosinophils (millions/animal). For each
group the mean value and standard deviation were
25 determined. The percentage inhibition of eosinophilia
for the group treated with test substance was
calculated according to the following formula:

$$(A - B) - (B - C) / (A - C) \times 100 = \% \text{ inhibition}$$

30 in this formula A eosinophils correspond to the
untreated challenge group, B eosinophils to the treated
group and C eosinophils to the unchallenged control
group.

35 The animals were treated with a histamine H₁ antagonist
(azelastine; 0.01 mg/kg p.o.) 2 hours before allergen
challenge to avoid death. The administration of the
test substances or of the vehicle was carried out 4

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hours after allergen challenge. The percentage inhibition of eosinophilia in the BAL was calculated on groups of 6 - 10 animals.

5 Table: Inhibition of the "late phase" - eosinophilia
24 h after allergen challenge in guinea pigs

Substance	Dose [mg/kg]	Administration	n	% Inhibition
Cyclosporin A	5	i.p. + 4h	17	50.0
	10	i.p. + 4h	11	47.0
	30	p.o. + 4h	10	68.8
According to Ex. 1	5	i.p. + 4h	10	27.8
	10	i.p. + 4h	10	55.4
	30	p.o. + 4h	9	56.1

10 Assays for the determination of peptidylprolyl
isomerase (PPIase) activity and inhibition

The PPIase activity of the cyclophilins was measured enzymatically according to Fischer et al. (1984). After isomerization of the substrate by the peptidyl prolyl isomerase, this is accessible to chymotrypsin, which cleaves the chromophore p-nitroaniline. For the determination of inhibition of the PPIase activity by substance, recombinant human Cyp B was used. The interaction of Cyp B with a potential inhibitor was carried out as follows:

A certain concentration of purified Cyp B was incubated with 1 μ M substance for 15 min. The PPIase reaction was started by addition of the substrate solution to the reaction mixture which contains HEPES buffer, chymotrypsin and either test or control samples. Under these conditions, first-order kinetics were obtained with a constant $K_{\text{observed}} = K_0 + K_{\text{enz}}$, where K_0 is the spontaneous isomerization and K_{enz} is the rate of isomerization of the PPIase activity. The extinction values which correspond to the amount of the chromophore cleaved were measured using a Beckman DU 70

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spectrophotometer at a constant reaction temperature of 10 °C.

The observed residual activity in the presence of various substances was compared with the cyclophilins 5 only treated with solvent. The results were given in % residual activity. Cyclosporin A (CsA) was used as the reference compound. The inhibition of the PPIase activity was additionally checked by SDS-PAGE.

10 Colorimetric assay (based on the MTT test) for the non-radioactive quantification of cell proliferation and survival ability

15 MTT is used for the quantitative determination of cell proliferation and activation, for example, in the reaction on growth factors and cytokines such as IL-2 and IL-4 and also for the quantification of the antiproliferative or toxic effects.

20 The assay is based on the cleavage of yellow tetrazolium salt MTT to give purple-red formazan crystals by metabolically active cells.

25 The cells, cultured in a 96-hole tissue culture plate, are incubated for about 4 h with yellow MTT solution. After this incubation time, purple-red formazan salt crystals are formed. These salt crystals are insoluble in aqueous solutions, but can be dissolved by addition of solubilizer and by incubation of the plates 30 overnight.

35 The dissolved formazan product is quantified spectrophotometrically using an ELISA reader. An increase in the number of living cells results in an increase in the total metabolic activity in the sample. This increase correlates directly with the amount of the purple-red formazan crystals formed, which are [sic] measured by the absorption.

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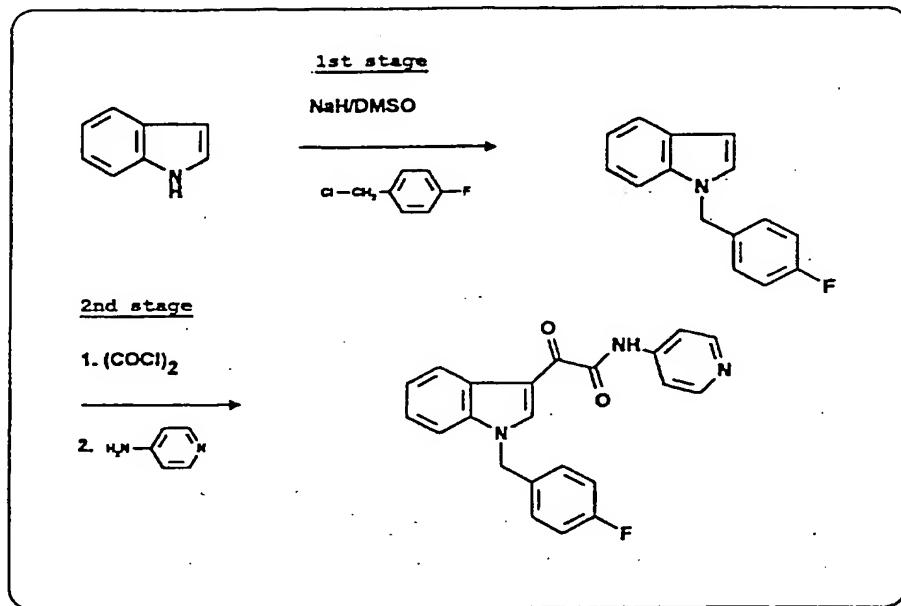
Substance	Inhibition of PPIase activity [%]	Inhibition of CD3-induced IL-2 production [%]			Inhibition of lympho- proliferation [%]		
		0.1	1	10	0.1	1	10
Conc. [µM]							
According to Ex. 1	80 - 100	34	72	95	18	39	61
Cyclosporin A	80 - 100	56	82	94	8	7	11

The processes for the preparation of the compounds according to the invention are described in the following reaction schemes 1 and 2 and in general procedures. All compounds can be prepared as described or analogously.

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The compounds of the general formula I are obtainable according to the following Scheme 1, shown for the synthesis of the compound Example 1:

5

Scheme 1

General procedure for the preparation of the compounds
10 of the general formula I according to Scheme 1:

1st stage:

The indole derivative, which can be unsubstituted or
15 mono- or polysubstituted on C-2 or in the phenyl structure, is dissolved in a protic, dipolar aprotic or nonpolar organic solvent, such as, for example, isopropanol, tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, N-methyl-
20 pyrrolidone, dioxane, toluene or methylene chloride and added dropwise to a suspension of a base in a molar or excess amount prepared in a 3-necked flask under an N₂ atmosphere, such as, for example, sodium hydride, powdered potassium hydroxide, potassium tert-butoxide,

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dimethylaminopyridine or sodium amide in a suitable solvent. The desired alkyl, aralkyl or heteroaralkyl halide, if appropriate with addition of a catalyst, such as, for example, copper, is then added and the mixture is reacted for some time, for example 30 minutes to 12 hours, and the temperature is kept within a range from 0°C to 120°C, preferably between 30°C to [sic] 80°C, particularly between 50°C and 65°C. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture is added to water, the solution is extracted, for example, with diethyl ether, dichloromethane, chloroform, methyl tert-butyl ether or tetrahydrofuran and the organic phase obtained in each case is dried using anhydrous sodium sulfate. The organic phase is concentrated in vacuo, the residue which remains is crystallized by trituration or the oily residue is purified by recrystallization, distillation or by column or flash chromatography on silica gel or alumina. The eluent used is, for example, a mixture of dichloromethane and diethyl ether in the ratio 8:2 (vol/vol) or a mixture of dichloromethane and ethanol in the ratio 9:1 (vol/vol).

2nd stage

25

The N-substituted indole obtained by the abovementioned 1st stage procedure is dissolved under a nitrogen atmosphere in an aprotic or nonpolar organic solvent, such as, for example, diethyl ether, methyl tert-butyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, toluene, xylene, methylene chloride or chloroform and added to a solution, prepared under a nitrogen atmosphere, of a simply molar up to 60 percent excess amount of oxaryl chloride in an aprotic or nonpolar solvent, such as, for example, in diethyl ether, methyl tert-butylether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, toluene, xylene, methylene chloride or chloroform, the temperature being kept between -5°C and 20°C. The reaction solution is then heated at a temperature between 10°C and 130°C,

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- preferably between 20°C and 80°C, particularly between 30°C and 50°C, for a period of 30 minutes up to 5 hours and the solvent is then evaporated. The residue of the "indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid chloride" formed in this manner which remains is dissolved in an aprotic solvent such as, for example, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, diethyl ether, toluene or alternatively in a dipolar aprotic solvent, such as, for example, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide or dimethyl sulfoxide, cooled to a temperature between 10°C and -15°C, preferably between -5°C and 0°C, and treated in the presence of an acid scavenger with a solution of the primary or secondary amine in a diluent.
- Possible diluents are the solvents used above for the dissolution of the indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid chloride. Acid scavengers used are triethylamine, pyridin, dimethylaminopyridine, basic ion exchanger, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, powdered potassium hydroxide and excess primary or secondary amine employed for the reaction. The reaction takes place at a temperature from 0°C to 120°C, preferably at 20 - 80°C, particularly between 40°C and 60°C. After a reaction time of 1 - 3 hours and standing at room temperature for 24 hours, the hydrochloride of the acid scavenger is filtered, the filtrate is concentrated in vacuo, and the residue is recrystallized from an organic solvent or purified by column chromatography on silica gel or alumina. The eluent used is, for example, a mixture of dichloromethane and ethanol (95:5, vol/vol).

Working Examples

- According to this general procedure for Stages 1 and 2, on which the synthesis Scheme 1 is based, the following compounds were synthesized which are evident from the following survey detailing the respective chemical name. In Table 1 which follows, the structures of these

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compounds and their melting points can be seen from the general formula I and the substituents R₁-R₄ and Z:

Example 1

5

N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]
glyoxylamide

1st stage

10

1-(4-Fluorobenzyl)indole

A solution of 11.72 g (0.1 mol) of indole in 50 ml of dimethyl sulfoxide is added to a mixture of 2.64 g of sodium hydride (0.11 mol, mineral oil suspension) in 100 ml of dimethyl sulfoxide. The mixture is heated for 1.5 hours at 60°C, then allowed to cool and 15.9 g (0.11 mol) of 4-fluorobenzyl chloride are added dropwise. The solution is warmed to 60°C, allowed to stand overnight and then poured into 400 ml of water with stirring. The mixture is extracted several times with a total of 150 ml of methylene chloride, the organic phase is dried using anhydrous sodium sulfate and filtered, and the filtrate is concentrated in vacuo. The residue is distilled in a high vacuum: 21.0 g (96% of theory)

B.p. (0.5 mm): 140°C

2nd stage

30

N-(pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]
glyoxylamide

A solution of 4.75 g (21.1 mmol) of 1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indole in 25 ml of ether is added dropwise at 0°C and under N₂ to a solution of 2.25 ml of oxalyl chloride in 25 ml of ether. The mixture is refluxed for 2 hours and the solvent is then evaporated. 50 ml of tetrahydrofuran were [sic] then added to the residue,

- 15 -

and the solution is cooled to -5°C and treated dropwise with a solution of 4.66 g (49.5 mmol) of 4-aminopyridine in 200 ml of THF. The mixture is refluxed for 3 hours and allowed to stand at room temperature overnight. The 4-aminopyridine hydrochloride is filtered off with suction, the precipitate is washed with THF, the filtrate is concentrated in vacuo and the residue is recrystallized from ethyl acetate.

10 Yield: 7.09 g (90% of theory)

Melting point: 225-226°C

Elemental analysis:

15

Calc.	C	70.77	H	4.32	N	11.25
Found	C	71.09	H	4.36	N	11.26

Example 2 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(1-methylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide

Example 3 N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

Example 4 N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide

Example 5 N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

25 Example 6 N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

Example 7 N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

Example 8 N-(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

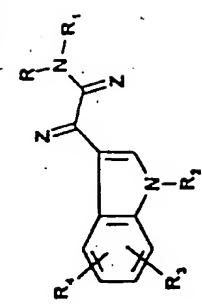
30 Example 9 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide

Example 10 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(3-pyridylmethyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

35 Example 11 N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(2-pyridylmethyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide

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- Example 12 N-4(Fluorophenyl)-[1-(3-pyridylmethyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 13 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
5 Example 14 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 15 N-(Pyridin-2-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
10 Example 16 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(2-pyridylmethyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 17 N-(4-Phenylpiperazin-1-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 18 N-(Pyridin-2-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide
15 Example 19 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-6-ethoxycarbonylaminoindol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide
Example 20 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-ethoxycarbonylaminoindol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide
20 Example 21 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-6-cyclopentyloxycarbonylaminoindol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide
Example 22 4-(Pyridin-4-yl)-piperazin-1-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide
25 Example 23 N-(3,4,5-Trimethoxybenzyl)-N-(allylaminocarbonyl-2-methylprop-1-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 24 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-methoxyindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
30 Example 25 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-hydroxyindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
Example 26 N-pyridin-4-yl-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-ethoxycarbonylaminomethylindol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide
35

Formula 1

Example	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Z	M.P.
Ex. 1	H	pyridine	-CH ₂ -phenyl-F	H	H	O	226.8°C
Ex. 2	H	pyridine	CH ₃	H	H	O	176°C
Ex. 3	H	pyridine	-CH ₂ -phenyl-F	H	H	O	173°C
Ex. 4	H	pyridine	-CH ₂ -phenyl	H	H	O	140°C
Ex. 5	H	pyridine	-CH ₂ -phenyl-Cl	H	H	O	185°C

Table 1: Novel indolylglyoxylamides according to reaction Scheme 1

Example	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Z	M.P.
Ex. 6	H			F	H	H	199°C
Ex. 7	H			F	H	O	>250°C
Ex. 8	H			F	H	O	149°C
Ex. 9	H			H	H	O	178-180°C
Ex. 10	H			H	H	O	179°C
Ex. 11	H					H	132°C

Table 1: Novel indolylglyoxylamides according to reaction Scheme 1

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Example	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Z	M.P.
Ex. 12	H			H	H	O	144°C
Ex. 13	H			H	H	O	234°C
Ex. 14	H			H	H	O	184°C
Ex. 15	H			H	H	O	141°C
Ex. 16	H			H	H	O	202°C
Ex. 16	H			H	H	O	115°C
Ex. 17	R+R ₁ together			H	H	O	112-3°C
Ex. 18	H			H	H	O	112-3°C

Table 1: Novel indolylglyoxylamides according to reaction Scheme 1

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Example	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Z	M.P.
Ex. 19	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-NHCOOEt	H	>260°C
Ex. 20	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-NHCOOEt	H	0
Ex. 21	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-NHCOOEt	H	183°C
Ex. 22	R+R ₁ together		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-NHCOOEt	H	Oily
Ex. 23			—CH ₂ — 	F	H	H	160-62°C
Ex. 24	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-OCH ₃	H	0
Ex. 25	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-OH	H	>260°C
Ex. 26	H		—CH ₂ — —	F	6-CH ₂ -NHCOOEt	H	0
							176-178°C

Table 1: Novel indolylglyoxylamides according to reaction Scheme 1

- 21 -

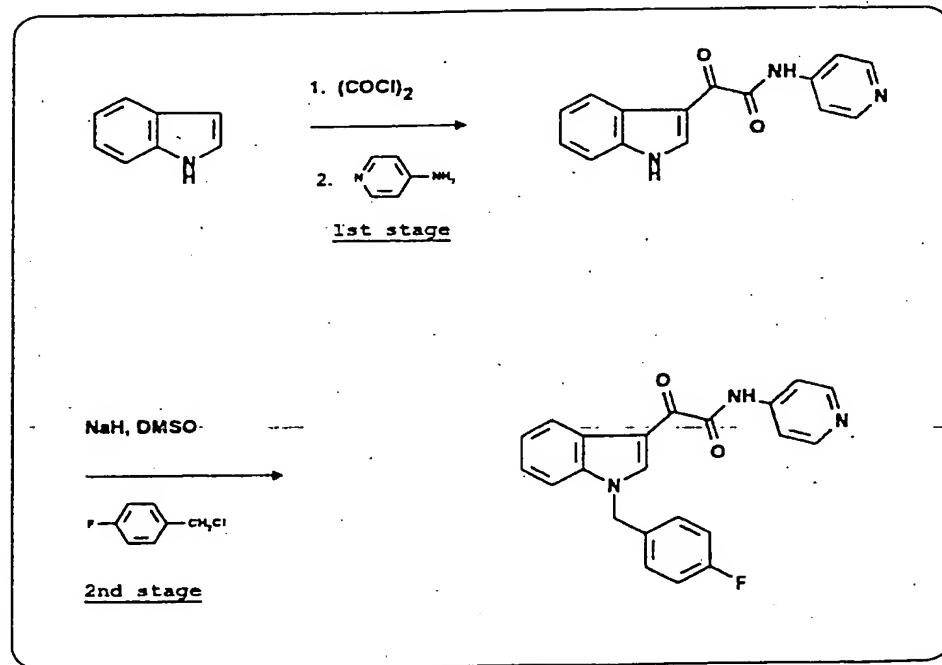
Starting materials for the compounds of the general formula I prepared according to synthesis Scheme 1, which come from Table 1

- 5 All precursors for the final synthesis stages of Examples 1 to 22 and 24 to 26 are commercially available.

Furthermore, the compounds of the general formula I are
10 also obtainable according to the synthesis route of Scheme 2, shown by the synthesis of the compound Example 27:

Scheme 2

15



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General procedure for the preparation of the compounds
of the general formula 1 according to Scheme 2

1st stage:

5

The indole derivative dissolved in a solvent, such as given above for oxaryl chloride, which can be unsubstituted or substituted on C-2 or in the phenyl ring, is added dropwise at a temperature between -5°C and +5°C to a solution of a simply molar up to 60% excess amount of oxaryl chloride prepared under a nitrogen atmosphere in an aprotic or nonpolar solvent, such as, for example, in diethyl ether, methyl tert-butyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane or alternatively dichloromethane. The reaction solution is then heated for 1 to 5 hours to a temperature between 10°C and 120°C, preferably between 20°C and 80°C, particularly between 30°C and 60°C, and the solvent is then evaporated. The residue of the (indol-3-yl)glyoxylic acid chloride which remains is dissolved or suspended in an aprotic solvent, such as, for example, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, diethyl ether, toluene or alternatively in a dipolar aprotic solvent, such as, for example, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide or dimethyl sulfoxide, cooled to a temperature between -10°C and +10°C, preferably to -5°C to 0°C, and treated with a solution of the primary or secondary amine in a diluent in the presence of an acid scavenger. Possible diluents are the solvents used for the dissolution of the "indolyl-3-glyoxylic acid chloride". Acid scavengers used are triethylamine, pyridin, dimethylaminopyridine, basic ion exchanger, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, powdered potassium hydroxide and excess primary or secondary amine employed for the reaction. The reaction takes place at a temperature from 0°C to 120°C, preferably at 20 - 80°C, particularly between 40°C and 60°C. After a reaction time of 1 - 4 hours and standing at room temperature for 24 hours, the precipitate is digested

- 23 -

with water, and the solid is filtered off with suction and dried in vacuo. The desired compound is purified by recrystallization in an organic solvent or by column chromatography on silica gel or alumina. The solvent used is, for example, a mixture of dichloromethane and ethanol (10:1, vol/vol).

2nd stage

10 The "indol-3-ylglyoxylamide" obtained according to the abovementioned 1st Stage procedure is dissolved in a protic, dipolar aprotic or nonpolar organic solvent, such as, for example, in isopropanol, tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethylformamide, dimethyl-
15 acetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, dioxane, toluene or methylene chloride and added dropwise to a suspension of a base such as, for example, sodium hydride, powdered potassium hydroxide, potassium tert-butoxide, dimethylaminopyridine or sodium amide in a suitable
20 solvent, in a molar amount or in excess prepared in a 3-necked flask under an N₂ atmosphere. The desired alkyl, aralkyl or heteroaralkyl halide is then added either in undiluted form or in a diluent which was also used, for example, to dissolve the "indol-3-yl
25 glyoxylamide", if appropriate with addition of a catalyst, such as, for example, copper, and the mixture is allowed to react for some time, e.g. 30 minutes to 12 hours, and the temperature is kept within a range between 0°C and 120°C, preferably between 30°C and
30 80°C, particularly between 50 and 70°C. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture is added to water, the solution is extracted, for example, with diethyl ether, dichloromethane, chloroform, methyl tert-butyl ether, tetrahydrofuran or N-butanol and the
35 organic phase obtained in each case is dried using anhydrous sodium sulfate.

The organic phase is concentrated in vacuo, the residue which remains is crystallized by trituration or the oily residue is purified by distillation or by column

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chromatography or flash chromatography on silica gel or alumina. The eluent used is, for example, a mixture of methylene chloride and diethyl ether in the ratio 8:2 (vol/vol) or a mixture of methylene chloride and 5 ethanol in the ratio 9:1 (v/v).

Working Examples

According to this general procedure for Stages 1 and 2, 10 on which synthesis Scheme 2 is based, compounds were synthesized which have already been prepared according to the synthesis course of reaction Scheme 1 and are evident from Table 1. The relevant precursors of these compounds are evident from Table 2.

15

Example 27

N-(pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-flurobenzyl)indol-3-yl]-glyoxylamide

20 (Final substance, identical to Example 1)

1st stage

N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(indol-3-yl)glyoxylamide

25

A solution of 10 g (85.3 mmol) of indole in 100 ml of ether is added dropwise at 0°C to a solution of 9 ml of oxalyl chloride in 100 ml of anhydrous ether. The mixture is kept under reflux for 3 hours. A suspension 30 of 12 g (127.9 mmol) of 4-aminopyridine in 500 ml of tetrahydrofuran is then added dropwise at -5°C, and the reaction mixture is heated to reflux temperature with stirring for 3 hours and allowed to stand overnight at room temperature. The precipitate is filtered and 35 treated with water and the dried compound is purified on a silica gel column (silica gel 60, Merck AG, Darmstadt) using the eluent methylene chloride/ethanol (10:1, v/v).

- 25 -

Yield: 9.8 g (43.3% of theory)

M.p.: from 250°C

5 2nd stage

N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(1-[4-fluorobenzyl]indol-3-yl)glyoxylamide

10 The N-(pyridin-4-yl)-(indol-3-yl)glyoxylamide obtained according to the 1st stage is reacted with 4-fluorobenzyl chloride according to the "benzylation procedure" (Page 11) and the compound obtained is isolated.

15

Yield: 41% of theory

M.p.: 224-225°C

20 Elemental analysis:

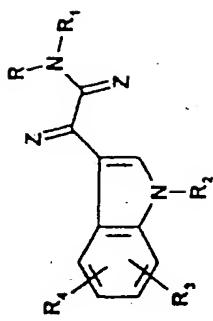
Calc.	C 70.77	H 4.32	N 11.25
Found	C 70.98	H 4.40	N 11.49

- Example 28 N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
 (Final substance, identical to Example 7)
- Example 29 N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
 (Final substance, identical to Example 6)
- Example 30 N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide
 (Final substance, identical to Example 3)

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The following precursors (1st stage of reaction scheme 2, Table 2) were obtained according to the present Scheme 2.

- 5 Example 31 N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(indol-3-yl)-
 glyoxylamide
- Example 32 N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-(indol-3-yl)-
 glyoxylamide
- Example 33 N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-(indol-3-yl)-
 glyoxylamide
- 10 Example 34 N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-(indol-3-yl)-
 glyoxylamide

Formula 1

Example	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Z	M.P.
Ex. 31	H	pyridine	H	H	H	O	>260°C
Ex. 32	H	4-NO ₂ phenyl	H	H	H	O	>260°C
Ex. 33	H	4-Fphenyl	H	H	H	O	233-5°C
Ex. 34	H	4-pyridyl	H	H	H	O	235°C

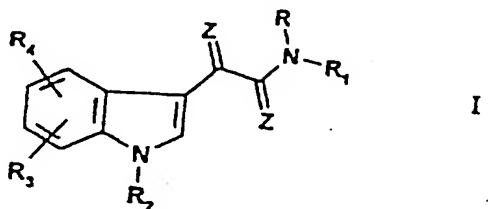
Table 2: Novel indolylglyoxylamides according to reaction Scheme 2

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The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of formula

I:



or an acid addition salt thereof,

wherein the radicals R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and Z have the following meanings:

R represents:

(1) hydrogen; or

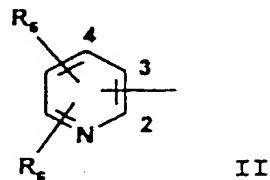
(2) (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, wherein the alkyl group is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by a phenyl ring, which ring is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols, trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups, benzyloxy groups and benzyl groups which are optionally mono- or polysubstituted on the phenyl moiety by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl groups, halogen atoms or trifluoromethyl groups;

R₁ represents:

(1) a phenyl ring which is mono- or polysubstituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, benzyloxy, nitro, amino, (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino,

(C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonylamino and by a carboxyl group or a carboxyl group esterified by a (C₁-C₆)-alkanol;

(2) a pyridine structure of formula II:



wherein the pyridine structure is alternatively bonded to the ring carbon atoms 2, 3 and 4 and is optionally substituted by R₅ and R₆, which may be identical or different and represent (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, nitro, amino, hydroxyl, halogen, trifluoromethyl, an ethoxycarbonylamino radical and a carboxyalkyloxy group in which the alkyl group has 1-4 carbon atoms;

(3) a pyridylmethyl radical in which CH₂ is in the 2-, 3- or 4-position;

(4) a 2-, 3- or 4-quinolyl structure substituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, halogen, a nitro group, an amino group or a (C₁-C₆)-alkylamino radical;

(5) a 2-, 3- or 4-quinolyl methyl group, wherein the ring carbons of the pyridylmethyl and quinolylmethyl radicals are optionally substituted by (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, nitro, amino and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonylamino;

(6) if R represents hydrogen or a benzyl group, R₁ furthermore represents the acid radical of a natural amino acid, wherein the amino group of said amino acid is present in protected or unprotected

form, and wherein if R₁ represents an asparagyl or a glutamyl radical having a second nonbonded carboxyl group, said nonbonded carboxyl group is present as a free carboxyl group or in the form of an ester with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols; or

(7) an allylaminocarbonyl-2-methylprop-1-yl group;

R₂ represents:

(1) hydrogen;

(2) a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl group, said alkyl group being optionally mono- or polysubstituted by:

halogen;

a phenyl ring, which ring is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen,

(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols, trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups, or benzyloxy groups; or

a 2-quinolyl group or a 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl structure which are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl groups or (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy groups; or

(3) an aroyl radical, wherein the aroyl moiety on which the radical is based is a phenyl ring which is optionally mono- or polysubstituted by halogen, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, carboxyl groups, carboxyl groups esterified with (C₁-C₆)-alkanols,

trifluoromethyl groups, hydroxyl groups, methoxy groups, ethoxy groups, or benzyloxy groups; R₃ and R₄, which are identical or different, represent hydrogen, hydroxyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkanoyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, halogen, benzoxy, a nitro group, an amino group, a (C₁-C₄)-mono- or dialkyl substituted amino group, a (C₁-C₃)-alkoxycarbonylamino function or a (C₁-C₃)-alkoxycarbonylamino-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl function; and Z represents O or S; wherein alkyl, alkanol, alkoxy and alkylamino groups may be straight-chained or branched; with the proviso that when R, R₃ and R₄ are hydrogen, Z is O and R₁ is 3-pyridyl, R₂ is not hydrogen.

2. The N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of claim 1, wherein R is hydrogen or a benzyl group and R₁ is the acid radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of α -glycyl, α -alanyl, α -leucyl, α -isoleucyl, α -seryl, α -phenylalanyl, α -arginyl, α -lysyl, α -asparagyl and α -glutamyl.

3. The N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of claim 2, wherein R₁ represents α -asparagyl or α -glutamyl, in which the nonbonded carboxyl group is a methyl, ethyl or tert-butyl ester.

4. The N-substituted indol-3-glyoxylamide of claim 2, wherein R₁ represents the acid radical of a natural amino acid protected by a carbobenzoxy radical, a tert-butoxycarbonyl radical or an acetyl group.

5. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

6. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(4-methylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide.

7. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

8. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide.

9. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-3-yl)-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

10. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

11. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-
yl]glyoxylamide.

12. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(2-Chloropyridine-3-yl)-[1-(4-fluoro-
benzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

13. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide.

14. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(3-pyridylmethyl)indol-3-
yl]glyoxylamide.

15. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(2-pyridylmethyl)indol-3-
yl]glyoxylamide.

16. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-[1-(3-pyridylmethyl)indol-3-
yl]glyoxylamide.

17. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1,
which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-chlorobenzyl)indol-3-
yl]glyoxylamide.

18. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

19. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-2-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

20. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(2-pyridylmethyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

21. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-2-yl)-(1-benzylindol-3-yl)glyoxylamide.

22. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-6-ethoxy-carbonylaminoindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

23. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-ethoxy-carbonylaminoindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

24. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-6-cyclopentyloxycarbonylaminoindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

- 34a -

25. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(3,4,5-Trimethoxybenzyl)-N-(allylaminocarbonyl-2-methylprop-1-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

26. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-methoxy-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

27. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-hydroxy-indol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

28. A compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, which is N-(Pyridin-4-yl)-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-ethoxy-carbonylaminomethylindol-3-yl]glyoxylamide.

29. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of the formula I according to any one of claims 1 to 28, together with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluents or carrier, having antiasthmatic, antiallergic or immunomodulating activity.

30. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29, wherein the immunomodulating activity is immunosuppression.

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31. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29, for the treatment of psoriasis, rheumatoid disorders or chronic polyarthritis.

32. Use of the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 28, for the manufacture of a medicament having antiasthmatic, antiallergic or immunomodulating activity.

33. The use according to claim 32, wherein the immunomodulating activity is immunosuppression.

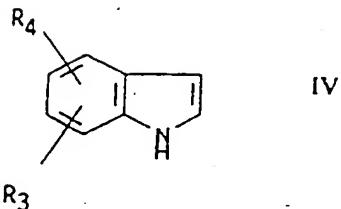
34. The use according to claim 32, wherein the medicament is for the treatment of psoriasis, rheumatoid disorders or chronic polyarthritis.

35. The use according to claim 32, 33 or 34, wherein the medicament is in the form of a tablet, a coated tablet, a capsule, a solution, an ampoule, a suppository, a patch or a powder preparation for inhalation or for use in a suspension, a cream or an ointment.

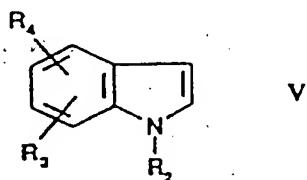
36. Process for the preparation of an N-substituted indole-3-glyoxylamide of formula I as defined in any one of claims 1 to 28, in which R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and Z are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, and wherein:

a) an indole derivative of the formula IV:

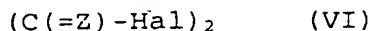
- 36 -



in which R₃ and R₄ are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, is added to a suspended base in a protic, dipolar aprotic or nonpolar organic solvent, and reacted with an R₂-containing compound that is reactive with the indole ring amine group, where R₂ is as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, to produce a 1-indole derivative of the formula V:



in which R₂, R₃ and R₄ are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, which is then reacted with a compound of the formula VI:



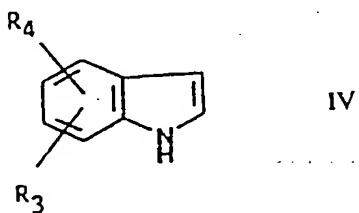
in which Z is oxygen or sulfur, and Hal is fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine, and then reacted with a primary or secondary amine of the formula VII:



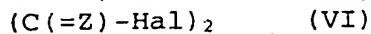
- 37 -

in which R and R₁ are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, in an aprotic or dipolar aprotic solvent to produce the compound of formula I, which is subsequently isolated; or

b) an indole derivative of the formula IV:



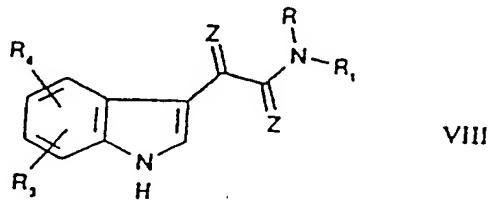
in which R₃ and R₄ are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, is reacted in an aprotic or nonpolar solvent with a compound of the formula VI:



in which Z is oxygen or sulfur, and Hal is fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine, and then reacted in an aprotic or dipolar aprotic solvent with a primary or secondary amine of the formula VII:



in which R and R₁ are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, to produce a 3-indole derivative of the formula VIII:



in which R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and Z are as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, which is then reacted in a protic, dipolar aprotic or nonpolar organic solvent in the presence of a suspended base with an R₂-containing compound that is reactive with the indole ring amine group, where R₂ is as defined in the said one of claims 1 to 28, respectively, to produce the compound of formula I, which is subsequently isolated.